Abstract

The invention provides for remote access by remote users on a public network such as the Internet to a private network (or Host network) node without compromising the Host network security. Remote access is provided by a second network (or Access network) separate from the Host network but under the control of the Host network. Nodes that are required to support remote access are connected to both the Host and Access network by an electrical switch controlled by the Host network. Typically the Host and Access networks have their own connections to the public network and each node has two identification codes or IP addresses. There are two physically separate paths for packets of data to reach a node from a public network.